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RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

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OF THE

Town of Kensington,

For the year ending March, 1856.

*Amount of Money raised and received by the Selectmen for
the year 1855.*

Raised in the State, County, Town, School and School	
house taxes on residents in said town,	\$1363 14
" in non-resident taxes,	171 33
Received of Stephen Brown, Treasurer for 1854,	379 10
" of County for support of Jesse Roberts,	
from Feb. 23d to Nov. 23d, 1855,	42 90
" of Stephen Green, Collector for 1854,	120 77
" of Joseph Poor for use of Town House,	3 00
" for money lent,	3 52
" of Jeremiah B. Sanborn for the remainder	
of paint, after the T. House was painted,	3 10
" of Cyrus D. Wadleigh, liquor agent, for	
liquor sold,	8 53
" of George W. Walton, liquor agent, for	
liquor sold,	18 49
	\$2118 88

Expenditures,

Paid State Tax, in full,	\$158 20
“ County Tax, in full,	262 94
	\$421 14

Schooling.

Paid John T. Hilliard, Prudential Committee in District No. 1,	240 00
“ Ira F. Brown and Andrew J. Shaw, Prudential Committee in District No. 2,	409 76
“ Joseph W. Brown for his services as Superintending School Committee,	6 00
“ S. S. Fletcher, Commissioner for Rockingham County for Teachers' Institute,	11 86
“ Jonathan Brown for services as Superintending School Committee for 1854,	5 00
	\$672 62

Contingencies, 1855.

Paid Smith, Hall and Clarke for printing town accounts,	\$8 00
“ Jeremiah B. Sanborn for painting town house,	16 00
“ Jeremiah F. Blake for services enrolling soldiers,	1 50
“ Jeremiah F. Blake, for gate for burying yard,	2 00
“ Lavina Ramsdell for washing town house,	2 00
“ A. G. M. Titcomb for notifying witnesses to testify against the road of S. P. Tuck and others,	3 67
“ Charles Grant for paints and oil,	36 36
“ Lovering and Jewell for lumber,	15 95
“ John Wadleigh for measures for the town,	77
“ George Gardner & Co. for faucets,	42

Paid	Joseph Poor railroad fare to purchase the liquor for the town,	2 50
"	Railroad Co., for freight on liquor,	45
"	John Caldwell for one bbl of New England rum,	19 35
"	J. W. Odlin, express on faucets,	12
"	for postage,	12
"	John T. Blake for services as Moderator,	3 00
"	John T. Blake for making taxes,	8 00
"	Daniel J. Carruth for spirits for the town of Kensington,	63 29
"	Joseph Pervere for boarding Lois Pervere up to February 18th, 1855,	1 47
"	John Wadleigh to sundries delivered to J. Tibbets family from Feb. 26th, to March 20th, 1855,	5 12
"	John Wadleigh to sundries delivered to Joseph Pervere and to stationery,	3 63
"	Ira Blake for writing bond,	33
"	Abram P. Hilton for an abatement of his poll tax for the year 1854,	2 51
"	George A. Chase to serving four notices and travel,	2 02
"	Henry Trodd for boarding and clothing Sylvester German, a child of Arabella A. German, wife of the said Henry Trodd, and save the said town of Kensington harmless and free of all expense for the maintenance of the said Sylvester German, until he arrives at the age of twenty-one years,	94 27
"	Ebenezer Lovering, expense to Manchester,	4 00
"	Ebenezer Lovering, expense in going to Concord,	6 00
"	Prescott Spalding as a witness against the road of S. P. Tuck and others,	1 13
"	Jonathan Tuck as a witness against the road of S. P. Tuck and others.	1 30
"	John P. Lamprey for services enrolling soldiers,	1 50
"	Ebenezer Lovering for erecting guide post,	50
"	George W. Rowe as a witness against the road of S. P. Tuck and others,	1 25
"	F. Grant for blank books and stationery,	2 00
"	John Blaisdell for repairing burying ground fence,	50
"	Jonathan F. Badger for repairing hearse,	75
"	Charles Hilliard for two days attendance with Road Commissioners,	3 00

Paid	Charles Hilliard for one day's attendance on hearing and examining a route for a new highway agreeable to a petition of Jeremiah Dow and others,	1 50
"	Carter, Colcord & Preston for three gallons of alcohol,	2 55
"	Stephen A. Brown for getting money of the County for J. Roberts,	1 00
"	Abraham Shaw as a witness against the road of S. P. Tuck and others,	1 25
"	George W. Watson for services as liquor agent,	9 42
"	Cyrus D. Wadleigh for services as liquor agent,	15 00
"	Ebenezer Lovering for services as Overseer of the Poor,	12 00
"	Stephen Green for collecting taxes, in part, for 1854,	1 20
"	Stephen Brown for blanks,	57
"	Stephen Brown for mittens,	50
"	G. Marston for term fee in the action Kingston vs. Kensington,	5 00
"	G. Marston for advice in 1852,	3 00
"	Cyrus D. Wadleigh for collecting taxes for 1855,	15 39
"	Cyrus D. Wadleigh for enrolling soldiers,	1 50
"	G. A. Chase for collecting taxes in part for 1854,	41
"	Joseph Poor for five days attendance with Road Commissioners and horse and wagon,	8 50
"	Joseph Poor for six dinners for painters and horse keeping,	2 50
"	Joseph Poor for one day's attendance on hearing and examining a route for a new highway agreeable to a petition of Jeremiah Dow and others,	1 50
"	Joseph Poor for purchasing liquor for the town and drawing the same from the depot,	2 00
"	Joseph Poor for lighting town house for Rockingham County School Commissioner,	75
"	Joseph Poor for hinges for burying yard gate and hanging the same,	2 00
"	Joseph Poor for copying town accounts and procuring printing the same,	1 25
"	Joseph Poor for services as town Treasurer,	5 00
"	Joseph W. Brown for services as town Clerk,	6 00
"	" " for recording inventory,	3 00
"	" " for recording marriages,	42
"	" " for index book for mortgages,	13
"	" " for recording deaths,	33

Paid Joseph W. Brown for recording births,	21
" " " for notifying Selectmen to attend jury meeting,	97
" " " for notifying jurymen,	1 15
" " " for postage,	30
" " " for stationery,	50
" Stephen A. Brown for five days attendance with the Road Commissioner,	7 50
" Nathaniel Gilman and others, their non-resident highway taxes,	14 08
	\$442 25

Amount paid for breaking roads at 10 cents per hour.

Paid Jonathan F. Badger,	\$1 50
" Amos T. Rowe,	45 40
" Ebenezer Lovering,	2 50
" John L. Lamprey,	16 10
" Prescott Spaulding,	52 29
" Josiah T. Blake,	25 90
" Abel Brown,	10 67
" William Walton,	50
" Daniel R. Prescott,	37 50
" William Hilton,	40 35
" George H. A. Brown,	33 70
" Jeremiah Wadleigh,	19 40
" Joseph Poor,	17 75
" James Fuller,	60 30
" Jonathan Palmer,	6 25
" William F. Fitts,	9 35
" John G. Dow,	5 60
	\$385 06

Roads and Bridges.

Paid James Fuller for labor on bridges,	1 60
" Charles Hilliard for 125 feet of hemlock plank,	1 33
" " " for labor,	1 00
" " " for 9 lbs. of pikes,	48
" " " for hauling bridge plank from Exeter,	1 00
" " " for string piece,	50
" " " for labor on bridge,	2 00
" Maurice Kimball for bridge plank,	4 53

Paid Thomas C. Shaw and Weare N. Shaw for labor on bridge and for stone,	2 25
	\$14 69

Selectmen's Bill.

Paid for their services the past year,	24 00
" for taking inventory and expenses in the same,	18 00
" expended with the Auditors,	2 00
	\$44 00

Expenses of the Poor.

Paid Abel Brown for boarding and clothing Abby & Caroline Tibbets from March 23d, 1855, to March 14th, 1856,	100 00
" Zacheus Roberts for boarding and clothing Betty Page from March 15th, 1855, to March 15th, 1856,	100 00
" John G. Dow for boarding George W. Tibbets from March 28th, 1855, to March 15th, 1856,	19 27
Clothing,	8 50
" Mrs. Phineas Felch for boarding and clothing youngest child of Jonathan Tibbets from April 28th, 1855, to March 15th, 1856,	57 50
" Nathaniel Eastman for boarding and clothing Joseph Sanborn from March 15th, 1855, to March 15th, 1856,	25 00
" for Lucy Blake, of Manchester, August, 1855, to January 31st, 1856,	39 00
" for Sally Dow from March 15th, 1855, to Feb. 15th, 1856,	85 50
" Mrs. Lavina Ramsdell for boarding Jesse Roberts,	42 90
	\$477 67

EBENEZER LOVERING,
Overseer of the Poor.

Abatements for 1855.

Abated Ezra B. Chase, poll tax,	1 58
“ James Brown, poll tax,	1 58
“ John Wilcox, poll tax,	1 58
“ Jonathan West, poll tax,	1 25
“ George E. Dearborn, overrated on his buildings,	66
“ Samuel Shaw, for a cow,	16
“ Martin B. Loring, poll tax for 1852,	1 67
“ Edward P. Tucke, poll tax for 1852,	1 67
“ Edwin T. Lovering, poll tax for 1852,	1 65
“ Charles Bowley, poll tax for 1854,	1 98
“ Jeremiah Sanborn, Jr. poll tax for 1854,	1 98
“ Patrick Samil, poll tax for 1854,	2 51
“ Geo. E. Dearborn, overrated on his buildings,	1 04
“ Dorothy Brown, for 1855,	42
“ Martin Hazel, for 1855,	1 58
“ Patrick Murphy, for 1855,	1 25
“ Charles Dow in part for 1853, 1854 and 1855,	2 12
“ George W. Rowe, for a cow for 1854,	18
“ Charles Hilliard, for a cow for 1855,	16
	\$25 02

Remains in the hands of Francis Hilliard, Collector for 1851,	35 75
“ in the hands of George A. Chase, Collector for 1853,	10 19
“ in the hands of Stephen Green, Collector for 1854,	12 95
“ in the hands of Cyrus D. Wadleigh, Collec- tor for 1855,	2 03
Money hired for the town,	351 86

JOSEPH POOR, } *Selectmen of*
CHARLES HILLIARD, } *Kensington.*

Kensington, March 3d, 1856,

The undersigned have examined the accounts of the Selectmen, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched, and find them evenly balanced and hereby approve of the same.

GEORGE W. ROWE, } *Auditors.*
GEORGE A. CHASE, }

REPORT
OF THE
Superintending School Committee
OF THE
TOWN OF KENSINGTON,
For the year 1855.

Our common schools are the pride of New England, and every good citizen loves and cherishes that system which offers to every son and daughter within its borders a good common education; and though this system requires a constant and large expenditure of time, talent, and money, yet it is hardly felt to be burdensome, for all know that it is easier to educate a people than to support them when uneducated.

Your committee in submitting the annual report would respectfully call the attention of the public, first, to that subject which must be conceded to have the greatest bearing on the advancement of our common schools, and that is parental influence. Let all, then, realize that the complete success of our common schools, depends individually with every parent, master, or guardian, who sends to them.

Teachers, to be what they should be, must be educated for the business; and as this is the design of Teachers' Institutes and Manual Schools, we might naturally suppose that the highest standard of excellence cannot be reached until we support such institutions by giving those who attend them our patronage.

No change of any consequence has this year been made in school books. There is, however, too great a variety, especially in No. 2 District, and any movement on the part of my predecessors to secure a greater uniformity, should be promptly seconded by the patrons of the schools.

Every scholar, great and small, should be provided with a slate and pencil—children in the school room *must be employed*.

The grading system is one of the improvements of later days, but as

the recommendations of former committees on this subject have not been heeded, it is fair to conclude that the people here regard it only as moonshine—this sort of haziness must soon give way to a brighter light.

The subject of absences and tardinesses has occupied the attention of your committee; not that they have been much more numerous than common, but yet, an evil which exists to a fearful extent. This is the greatest evil, the “Malakoff,” which the “allies” of education have to prevail against, an evil that has well nigh overwhelmed our school system, and well nigh caused many a faithful teacher’s heart to sink in the “Black sea” of despair. The remedy lies almost wholly with parents to whom most of this evil is chargeable.

In the summer, words were given out to be written by the scholars on paper; the improvement in spelling as will be seen hereafter, was rather in favor of the school in District No. 2. There was an improvement in the writing and as I should judge about equal in the schools.

The late practice in not requiring teachers to keep only five days in a week, as I understand it, is for the benefit of the school and not the teachers, so that what is kept over five days in any week should not be taken into account, at all.

On the 21st day of November last, nine days after the commencement of the school in District No. 2, the schools in this town were visited by the County School Commissioner, contrary to expectation, and contrary to his general practice, he came without any notice, and which was the only reason he was “unaccompanied,” as he says he was, in a communication which he has made public. He was rather unfortunate too in his selection of the time for the address; all of which with extreme sensitiveness he has construed into “a want of interest among the people.” As regards District No. 1, the accusation is, as any one can see, totally unfounded—it having some years since began, by erecting in a pleasant situation, a substantial and commodious schoolhouse, and since, by its yearly appropriations beyond what the law requires, kept the town, as compared with others in the State, far from the bottom of the list. That the people in District No. 2, have not been so united in school matters is rather a cause for regret than censure, still they have done something, and would have done more if they could.

The appointment of the present incumbent to the office of School Commissioner, from the first I regarded as one worthy to be made;

and especially ought I so to regard it now, after he, in his public capacity, has informed the people of this town, that he realizes "the relation that education bears to the virtue and prosperity of their children." Otherwise, notwithstanding his pastoral relation in this town, the past years, he might have gone down to his grave without my ever having the least idea that such a thing ever entered his head, so far as his interest in our schools has manifested itself by his deeds.

For a uniformity in text books I should recommend the Bible.—Town's reading books, Leonard's Spelling, Greenleaf's Arithmetics, Colburn's mental Arithmetic, Weld's Grammar, Tower's Elementary do., Mitchell's Geographies, and Payson and Dunton's System of Penmanship.

DISTRICT NUMBER ONE.

SUMMER SCHOOL.

Teacher, Miss MARY A. EATON of South Hampton.

Length of School, 20 weeks,

Whole number of Scholars, 43

" Males, 20

" Females, 23

Average attendance, 36

Wages, exclusive of board, \$12 50

Visits by Superintending School Committee, 4

" Prudential " " 1

" Citizens, 75

Miss Eaton reports of the scholars, "their improvement has been highly satisfactory to me, I think I have never known of greater improvement than has been made on the part of some. They have been orderly and obedient." On the whole, this school fully maintained its position as one of the best of common schools, and Miss Eaton as fully maintained her reputation as one of the best of common school teachers. At the commencement of the school the following words were given out by me to be written on paper, viz: Faculties, Distinguished, Invisibility, Intelligence, Communication, Individual, Solicitude, Separation. These were given to nine of the best in the school, with the following result, as to spelling; four had all right, three had 6, one had 4, one had 3. At the close of the term, the words Business, Accuracy, Encouragement, Grandeur, Receive, Believe, Whirlwind, Indict, Artificial, were given in the same way to six, and two had 8 right, two had 7, two had 5; no one spelling *indict*.

At this time we were favored with some very pretty songs, learned

during this term under the instruction of that accomplished teacher, B. B. Thompson of Exeter:

WINTER SCHOOL.

Teacher, HIRAM JOHNSON of Cornish, N. H.

Length of school,	- - - -	13 weeks.
Whole number of scholars,	- - - -	40,
" " of males,	- - - -	24,
" " of females,	- - - -	16,
Average Attendance,	- - - -	27
Wages, exclusive of board,	- - - -	\$20,
Visits by Sup. School Com'r,	- - - -	2,
" " Prudential School Com.	- - - -	1,
" " Citizens,	- - - -	6.

Under remarks we find, "this school has in the teacher's opinion, made, generally speaking, a good improvement, in all the different branches pursued, there has been on the part of some of our scholars, a great irregularity of attendance. This served in some degree to diminish their interest. This has been owing partly to the inconvenience of the weather or rather to the bad traveling."

At the examination there were only fourteen scholars present, so that the Committee is not prepared to endorse the teacher's opinion, only as it concerns Arithmetic and Geography. The reading was not up to the opinion formed on former visits.

The whole number scholars attending in No. 1, the past year

was	- - - -	49,
" " males,	- - - -	26,
" " females,	- - - -	23,

DISTRICT NUMBER TWO.

SUMMER SCHOOL.

Teacher Miss E. SARAH LEAVITT, of Exeter.

Length of School	22 weeks.
Whole number of Scholars	70
" " Males	30
" " Females	40
Average attendance	43
Wages exclusive of Board	- - - \$10 00
Visits by the Superintending School Committee	- - 4
" " Prudential	" " 1
" " Citizens	- - - 45

Though the Teacher made no report as to the progress made, it will do to set it down as fair. A predecessor has "guessed," that our Summer Teachers "came as near angels as anybody." Yet I very much doubt, whether any of them have been sufficiently sustained by heavenly food, to be able to do justice to this school. The same words were given out and in the same way as in District No. 1. Of those at the commencement, two had all right, two had six, three had five, two had four. At the close one had eight, two had seven, two had six, one had five right.

WINTER SCHOOL.

Teacher WM. PORTER SANBORN.

Length of School 12 weeks

Whole Number of	Scholars	51
" " "	Males	39
" " "	Females	12
Average attendance		37
Wages exclusive of board		\$25 00
Visits by Sup. School Com.		2
" " Prudential Com.		0
" " the Citizens		4

Mr. Sanborn did little for appearance sake. But at the examination the large number of good readers in the first class, also in Mitchell's large Geography, in Greenleafs National Arithmetic, in Algebra and the different classes in History, Philosophy, Surveying, &c., gave evidence that the school had prospered under his care, and that in point of talent and numbers, the Winter School in this District has seldom stood higher. Under remarks Mr. Sanborn mentioned the grading system, the trials of the teacher, absences, &c., subjects which have been sufficiently noticed.

The Figures	56875
	95437
	86562
	79476
	64674
	35437
	62895
	34876
	25487

Were given out by me at the commencement of the School, to be added which was correctly done in about a minute and a half being first reported by M. F. Green. At the close the teacher gave out words much more difficult than the foregoing, but with equal success.

Neither of the teachers in this district made any report as to the "progress made," and consequently were not lawfully entitled to pay. The law directs that the registers shall be left by the teacher with the Superintending School Committee, & the Prudential Committee before paying up, should require a certificate from the other committee, that the teachers have complied with the law.

The whole Number of Scholars attending School in this District the past year was 86

Whole Number of Males 46

" " of Females 40

Whole Number attending in town the past year was 135

" " of Males 72

" " of Females 63

Whole Number in town between 4 and 14 not attending anywhere...0

Whole Number between 14 and 21 that cannot read and write - 0

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH W. BROWN,

Sup. School Com. of Kensington.